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28 NOV 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

SUBJECT : FY-75 KEP

1. In response to my request, the Intelligence Community Staff has provided an interim report on the status of the FY-75 KEP (copy attached).

2. The preliminary conclusion, based on NIO subjective performance assessments, and performance data provided by Community producers and collectors, is that about two-thirds of the FY-75 KIQs were satisfactorily answered--on 42 KIQs the IC essentially achieved the production and collection goals set forth in applicable strategies--at a cost of about one-third of the IC's O&M operating budget for FY-75.

3. While there were, as expected in such a 'first' effort, a number of ambiguities and some inconsistencies, it seems clear that the process is workable and that useful findings will emerge. State's contribution has been both constructive and significant, some 45% of INR's intelligence production expenditures being KIQ-related. The importance of Foreign Service reporting to the intelligence process is again brought out by NIO judgments of the relative contribution such reports made to the total information gain on KIQs last year.

4. Since the concept of evaluating Community performance by relating outcome and performance to priorities and resource expenditures appears sound, we must continue to put the effort and discipline into the process that success demands.

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5. To firmly establish the KEP as a viable and productive effort requires:

a. active INR/Foreign Service participation--both directly and through the HSC--in the development of KIQ production and collection strategies to ensure a common approach and structure, consistency of detail in the identification of internal goals and objectives, and precision in specifying the tasks for which commitments are to be sought;

b. examination of INR production schedules to ensure that the scope and detail of publications pertinent to KIQs are in consonance with the production goals and tasks set forth in KIQ strategies;

c. precision and consistency in reporting titles/subjects, types of products and producing organizations/offices; and

d. recommendations for 'measuring' intelligence production and procedures for insuring that an appropriate share of basic intelligence activities and support are attributed to KIQ efforts.

6. I repeat that the KEP continues to be an important endeavor, one that must be established and regularized as soon as possible. To this end I urge your continuing personal attention.

W. E. Colby

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